



# English Access Microscholarship Program [englishprograms.state.gov](http://englishprograms.state.gov)



## Building a Foundation

In Egypt many bright but economically disadvantaged students encounter a common hurdle in their quest for higher education and better jobs: the lack of English language skills. The English Access Microscholarship Program gives them the skills they need to fulfill their aspirations, and at the same time gain a better understanding of the cultures and values of America and Egypt.

Access participants and their families must demonstrate commitment to the program, motivation, and financial need.



U.S. Ambassador Anne Patterson

Access features American-style classroom experience using U.S. materials with an emphasis on active learning. In addition to English, Access offers leadership training, internet skills, and preparation for jobs.

## Path to Mutual Understanding and Educational Opportunities

Access graduates have been selected for participation in State Department-sponsored high school exchanges and undergraduate student leader institutes in the U.S. Learning English provides students with a new window on the world that can enhance trust and mutual understanding.

The English Access Microscholarship Program provides a foundation of English language skills to talented 13- to 22- year-olds from disadvantaged sectors through after-school classes and intensive summer learning activities. The program gives participants English skills that lead to better jobs and educational prospects. Participants also gain the ability to compete for and participate in future exchanges and study in the United States. Since its inception in 2004, over 70,000 students in more than 85 countries have participated in the Access Program.

*"This course (Access) changed me a lot in different ways, as it taught me to really love my community and to try as hard as possible to better it. And also in dealing with others, how to appreciate rules and follow instructions."*

**Access participant  
El Minya, Egypt**

*"Through our ability to use English we started to know about other cultures, and other ways of thinking and to appreciate these cultures as well as our own. We had the chance to meet and communicate with people from other parts of the world."*

**Access graduate  
Assyut, Egypt**

*"Access changed my life; it changed my thinking, my choices, and my friends. It opened doors. There isn't one area it didn't benefit me."*

**Access graduate  
Assyut, Egypt**

## Our Partners

The U.S. Embassy works in partnership with the American University in Cairo (AUC), AMIDEAST, and other public, private and non-governmental partners to carry out this program. Access is now being delivered in fifteen different governorates: Minya, Cairo, Alexandria, Qena, Suhag, Al-Arish, Kafr El Sheikh, Beni Suef, Aswan, Shebeen El Kom, Assyut, Luxor, Hurgada, Suez and Tur Sinai.

## English Access Partnership Program (EAPP):

This is an Access program with a grant from the USAID, launching in 2012. It has an extra mile strategy to build the capacity of local partner institutions to co-manage Access and become independent Access local providers in the future. Under EAPP, 246 students are planned to enroll and complete a two-year program of after-school classes and intensive summer learning activities. EAPP will be implemented in three new locations in addition to Cairo; Fayoum, Tanta and New Valley. The key providers are the American University in Cairo and AMIDEAST who are currently working with two local libraries in these locations; Misr Public Library and Integrated Care Society.

